



CITY OF HEREFORD

1948

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of
Health

SAYCE BROTHERS (HEREFORD), AUBREY STREET.



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CITY OF HEREFORD

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman C. FRANKLIN, Mayor.

Councillor Mrs. J. AINSLIE, Chairman.

Councillor Rev. L. J. B. SNELL, Deputy Chairman.

Alderman R. C. MONKLEY.

Alderman T. LINDSEY PRICE.

Councillor E. O. S. D'LOIRA.

Councillor W. E. MORGAN.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

Alderman C. FRANKLIN, Mayor.

Councillor Mrs. J. AINSLIE, Chairman.

Councillor Rev. L. J. B. SNELL, Deputy Chairman.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, with Mesdames
H. T. FISH, M. D'LOIRA and T. M. PEARCE.

HOUSING ACTS COMMITTEE

Alderman C. FRANKLIN, Mayor.

Alderman W. PIGOTT, Chairman.

Councillor A. E. FARR, Deputy Chairman.

Councillor R. BROWNBRIDGE.

Councillor H. E. PILE.

Councillor C. J. GOODING.

Councillor T. H. WATKINS.

with Mrs. W. W. BENTLEY-TAYLOR, Mrs. B. A. BARKER and

Mr. H. C. WATKINS.

T. B. FELTHAM, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL ANNEXE.

**TO THE
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND
COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD**

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the Health of the City for the year 1948, as required by the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, on the lines laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 3/49. It includes the report on sanitary work by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Legislation.

By the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on 5th July, 1948, the City Health Department, from that date, ceased to be responsible for the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, the Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic and the Home Help Service, all of which passed to the control of the County Council; and of the City Isolation Hospital, which became a function of the Regional Hospital Board.

Vital Statistics.

The Birth Rate showed a slight drop as compared with 1947 (19.19 as against 22.0) while the Birth Rate for England and Wales was 17.9.

The Death Rate was 10.54 as against 12.4 for 1947; and 10.8 for England and Wales.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 39.73 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 30.6 for 1947 and 34.0 for England and Wales.

The estimated population at mid-year 1948 was 32,150, which shows a very slight increase over 1947 (31,870).

Health Education.

During the year a course of instruction was held for food-handlers, etc., giving advice and instruction regarding the prevention of food-borne diseases.

Housing.

During the year 174 new dwelling houses were completed—159 by the Local Authority and 15 by other bodies or persons.

43 dwelling houses subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders were occupied under licence, 35 as dwelling houses and 8 for non-residential purposes.

The number of houses awaiting demolition under Demolition or Clearance Orders is 96.

Sewage Disposal.

A noteworthy event has been the commencement of work upon a new Sewage Purification Plant. The work is being done in two stages, commencing with the physical side, and progressing later to the biological side.

Infectious Disease.

Notifiable infectious disease was not prevalent during the year, all such showing an appreciable drop, with the exception of Whooping Cough, where a considerable rise was recorded.

In conclusion I should like to express my gratitude for the sympathy and consideration you have given to all matters laid before you.

Also I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation received from my colleagues in your service, and of the loyalty, willingness and enthusiasm shown by all members of my staff.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT T. THOMSON, M.A., M.B.Ch.B., D.P.H.

CITY OF HEREFORD

1948

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE AREA.

<i>Name and Qualifications.</i>	<i>Office held.</i>	<i>Whole or Part</i>	<i>Other Public Office.</i>
R. T. THOMSON, M.A., M.B.Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	Part	Assistant County Medical Officer
J. LEACH, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.	Chief Sanitary Inspector	Whole	
E. O. EDWARDS, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.	1st Additional Sanitary In- spector	Whole	
R. L. PUGH, Cert.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.	2nd Additional Sanitary In- spector	Whole	
F. G. D. CHALMERS, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C.	City Public Analyst	Part	
<i>To 5th July, 1948.</i>			
E. DUNBAR TOWNROE, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	Part	Medical Atten- dant, City Isolation Hosp.
H. WARD-SMITH, M.B.Ch.B.	Physician, Infant Welfare Clinic	Part	
WM. AINSLIE, M.D., F.R.C.S., Ed.	Consulting Gynaecologist Physician, Ante-Natal Clinic.	Part	
Miss E. M. NORMAN, Cert. C.M.B. and R.S.I.	Senior Health Visitor.	Part	

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,031 acres
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population 1948 :—							
(a) For calculation of Birth-Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,150
(b) For calculation of Death-Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,150
Number of Inhabited Houses...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,146
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£253,244
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,013	12s. 2d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...		294	267	561
Illegitimate	...	...		21	22	43
Still Births	...	...	...	9	3	12
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births					...	19.19
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						10.54
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—						
All Infants per 1,000 live births			...	...	...	39.73
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			...			39.21
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						46.51
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...		...	...	61.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...			...	...	3.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)					...	1.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

24 Infants died before reaching the age of 12 months. The Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 39.73. The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 34.

The causes of death were :—

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	1
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	4	—
Malformation	...	...	1	5
Prematurity	...	...	4	2
Gastro-enteritis...	...	...	—	1
Other Causes	...	...	2	2
			13	11

MATERNAL MORTALITY—Nil.

PUERPERAL MORBIDITY—There were 6 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia.

SECTION B.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (to 5.7.49).

VISITS TO HOMES OF INFANTS BY HEALTH VISITORS.

First Visits	...	...	...	297
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	658
Total	...	...	...	955
Visits to Infants between 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	1,740
Visits to Expectant Mothers.				
First Visits	...	...	...	48
Total Visits	...	...	...	67

INFANT FEEDING.

At 297 "Birth" Visits it was found that 187 were breast fed for a time and then artificially fed, only 68 being entirely breast fed.

1,788 lbs. of dried milk were issued at cost price for infant feeding.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

358 children made 1808 attendances (under one year 264, and between one and five years, 94).

24 children under one year made 38 attendances and 76 children one to five years made 211 attendances for treatment at the Minor Ailment Clinic.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

140 expectant mothers made 383 attendances. Of these 14 were from the Rural District.

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

21 mothers made 24 attendances.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

74 mothers made 92 attendances and 32 children under five years made 32 attendances.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Live Births notified	...	...	...	655
Still Births notified	...	...	...	16
Total	...	...	...	671

349 notifications were transferred out to other M. & C.W. Areas.

(The Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report is embodied in Sections C, D and E.)

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.**WATER SUPPLY.****CORPORATION WATERWORKS.**

The supply is taken from the river Wye and treated by settlement, filtration through slow sand filters and chlorination. Samples were submitted regularly for Bacteriological Examination.

So far as the works are concerned there have been no extensions or improvements, although much thought has been given during the year to certain possibilities in this direction. The most positive action has been taken in regard to repairs to No. 5 Filter Bed and Clear Water Well and whilst the steps taken in regard to the latter have been almost entirely successful, much still remains to be done to the former where the wastage of water is still very serious. The important question of the purification of the water has been under review and whilst no alterations have so far been made, such matters as residual chlorine recorders and more positive methods of dosing with chlorine have been, and are continuing to receive attention. More recently the advantages of break-point chlorination have been considered and there may possibly be some developments in this direction in due course. In regard to filtration, the possible use of the battery of pressure filters installed during the war has been carefully considered, but it does not appear practicable to use them effectively and they are to be disposed of. This does not mean that this particular method of filtration is to be disregarded but it would obviously need a major scheme of considerable magnitude to substitute mechanical pressure filtration for the existing slow sand filters. Such a change would be linked with other major operations as for example the co-ordination of all pumping plant in one building.

In regard to new mains the most important works have been carried out in Holmer Road, where 560 yds. of 6 ins. main have been laid, on the Holmer Street Housing Site, where 500 yds. of 4 ins. main have been laid, and the new Hunderton School site, where a length of 50 yds. of new 3 ins. main has been provided.

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory (*a*) in quality, (*b*) in quantity.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.**CITY SUPPLY**

Seventy-eight samples of the treated water were submitted for examination at regular intervals.

Streptococci were absent from 10.0 ml. in all samples.

Coliform bacilli were absent from 100 ml. in 69 samples.

The reports on the remaining nine samples are given below with the date of the subsequent samples showing B. Coli absent.

Sample No. Dated	Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37°C. per 100 ml.	Approximate proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal coli.	
		Faecal coli per cent.	Non-Faecal coli per cent.
7316/48 7th June, 1948	1	50	50
7419/48 9th June, 1948	3	33	67
7536/48 10th June, 1948	3	33	67
7756/48 11th June, 1948	0	0	0
7895/48 14th June, 1948	5	0	100
7988/48 16th June, 1948	0	0	0
10915/48 16th August, 1948	1	100	0
11237/48 23rd August, 1948	0	0	0
10916/48 16th August, 1948	1	100	0
11238/48 23rd August, 1948	0	0	0
11857/48 6th September, 1948	17	6	94
11996/48 8th September, 1948	0	0	0
12157/48 13th September, 1948	13	7	93
12287/48 15th September, 1948	35	3	97
12417 : 12436-8 : 12454-8 20th September, 1948 (9 samples taken hourly)	0	0	0

In all cases of unsatisfactory water samples, consultation with, and action by, the Waterworks Engineer resulted in the normal purity of the water being restored.

R.A.F. SUPPLY, CREDENHILL.

Thirteen check samples were taken throughout the year. In eleven samples B. Coli were absent in 100 ml. and streptococci were absent from 10.0 ml. The report on the remaining sample is given below with the date of the subsequent sample showing B. Coli absent :—

Sample No. Dated.	Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37° C. per 100 ml.	Approximate proportions of Faecal and Non-Faecal coli.	
		Faecal coli per cent.	Non-faecal coli per cent.
11855/48 6th September, 1948	180+	50	50
11995/48 8th September, 1948	0	0	0

The result of a chemical analysis is given below :

pH value=7.6

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

						<i>Parts per</i> 100,000
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.0032
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	1.25
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate at 80° F. in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	...	0.035
Total solids dried at 100° C.	...	...	...	...	...	13.
Hardness	{	Temporary	...	...	...	2.2
Soap test.		Permanent	...	...	...	5.0
		Total	...	...	...	7.2
Appearance—Bright and Clear.						
Nitrite	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	Absent

The above results show that this water is chemically of excellent quality and suitable for use.

(Signed) BOSTOCK, HILL & RIGBY,

Public Analysts.

All premises in the City, with the exception of 7 houses supplied from wells, receive the supply direct from the Corporation water mains.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Sewer extensions have been carried out on the Holmer Road, Service Road and the Holmer Street Housing Site, whilst a start has been made in resuming periodic sewer flushings which have been neglected for some years. The provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Hereford Corporation Act, 1936, are operated to maintain the drainage of private properties.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 74 dwelling houses and one factory (saw mill) all outside the City Sewerage System making use of conservancy closets. All other premises are provided with water closets.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

Apart from the introduction of three new freighters on the collecting system, there have been no outstanding developments in connection with the former, however, the matter of complete re-organisation has been under continuing consideration and whilst no major adjustments have been made there will be sporadic adjustments leading to a more systematic arrangement.

The disposal plant has quite obviously reached the limit of its capacity and there will be need for early extensions to cope with the growing quantities of refuse.

The collection of salvage is continuing satisfactorily and there have been two special drives with regard to waste paper. The cumulative figures serve to demonstrate the value of this service, and particularly does this apply in connection with kitchen waste. During the past year the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has made the Kitchen Waste (Licensing of Private Collectors) (Extensions) Order, 1948, which has had the effect of concentrating the greater part of kitchen waste collection and sterilisation in the hands of the City Council, and the results have produced larger quantities of kitchen swill for processing. Early in the new year a large addition to the existing arrangements will involve the collection of swill from the R.A.F. Camp, Credenhill and the boiling plant is being augmented accordingly.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number and nature of inspections and visits made by the staff of the Health Department during the year were as follows :

Nuisances (including inspections of drainage,					
sewers, sanitary conveniences and dustbins)					
1,169					
Housing—					
General	...	...	...	...	156
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	205
Requisitioning of Properties	...	...	...	...	16
Tents and Vans	...	...	...	...	31

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	63
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	69
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	10
Food Preparing Places, including bakehouses	...	...	...	...	795
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	273
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	223
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	136
Milk (Special Designations) Orders	...	...	...	...	40
Public Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	595
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	8
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	27
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	156
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	9
Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	26
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	83
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	125
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	197
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	106
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	104
Food and Drugs Act (Sampling)	...	...	...	...	136
Petroleum and Explosives Acts	...	...	...	...	123
Rag Flock Acts	...	...	...	...	4
Total					4,885

The following table shows the number of notices served and complied with :—

NOTICES SERVED.

Statute.	Notices not complied with at end of 1947	Notices served during 1948		Complied with during 1948	Notices not com- plied with at end of 1948
		Statutory	Informal		
Public Health Act ...	49	38	339	414	12
Factories Act ...	3	16	—	13	6
Shops Act ...	1	1	9	11	—
Hereford Corp. Act ...	—	26	4	30	—
Food and Drugs Act...	8	—	122	114	16
Milk and Dairies Order	—	—	3	3	—
	61	81	477	585	34
		558			

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS FOUND.

HEREFORD CORPORATION ACT, 1936.

Choked Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Public Sewers stopped up	...	...	...	...	...	11
Drainage defects	...	...	...	...	...	72
Defects to Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	73
General Nuisances, including Housing defects, burst water pipes and accumulation of refuse, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	184
Lack of proper Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	405

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Contraventions of Section 13	...	...	...	...	...	167
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MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Want of limewashing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	7
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Contraventions of Part I.	...	...	...	...	...	16
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SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Contraventions of Section 10	...	...	...	...	...	10
Statutory forms not exhibited	...	...	...	...	...	10

BYE LAWS.

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	3
Waste of Water	...	...	...	...	...	6

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Ten privately owned and 17 Council houses were disinfested by the use of "Thermatox" fumigators, D.D.T., Gammexane and Lethane 384 Special.

PUBLIC BATHS.

The water in the swimming pool is filtered and chlorinated. Samples of the water are sent for bacteriological examination monthly. Streptococci were absent from 10.0 ml. in all twelve samples, but coliform bacilli were present in one sample taken on the 6th September. Contact was made with the Baths Superintendent and subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

All public conveniences in the City are controlled by the Health Committee.

FACTORIES ACT.**1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.**

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	49	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	173	53	15	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	222	59	16	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Number of Defects.		Prosecu- tions. (6)
			Referred		
			by H.M. Inspector (4)	to H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Tempera- ture (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
Insufficient ...	8	3	1	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	4	5	1	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes	3	1	1	—	—
Other Offences ...	—	—	—	3	—
Total ...	16	10	3	3	—

3.—OUTWORKS PREMISES.

Number of Visits	...	...	10
Number of Notices	...	...	Nil

SHOPS ACT—SANITATION.

Number of Visits to Shops ... 125

DEFECTS AND NUISANCES.			<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Insufficient Ventilation	...	...	1	2
Unreasonably low temperature	...	...	1	2
Defective sanitary conveniences	...	...	4	5
Insufficient lighting	...	...	1	2
Lack of washing facilities	...	...	1	2
Insufficient sanitary convenience	...	...	2	2
Total			10	15

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number recorded in the City—

Felmongers	...	...	...	...	2
Tripe Boilers	...	...	...	...	1
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	...	1
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	27
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	2
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	2

RAG FLOCKS ACT.

There are no manufacturers of rag flock in the City.

Two samples were taken during the year, which were found to conform to standards of cleanliness laid down by the Regulations of 1912.

TENTS AND VANS.

Number of occupied vans in the City at end of year	12
Number of visits and inspections	36
Contraventions of Byelaws	3

The sanitation is governed by bye-laws and the Public Health Act, and offences are brought to the notice of owners and occupiers.

During the Annual Fairs all the vans were visited and found satisfactory.

CAMPING GROUND.

No licences have been granted for the use of any land as a camping site.

RODENT CONTROL.

A comprehensive scheme is now operating whereby costs of treatments of business and commercial premises are recovered and private dwellings treated free of charge.

The following summarises the work done during the year :—

No. of premises treated under contracts	...	...	166
No. of private dwellings treated	...	...	304
No. of refuse tips treated	...	...	2

In addition, frequent treatments have been carried out at Corporation properties, viz.: Sewage Disposal Works, Abattoir, Roads and Sewers Depot and Refuse Destructor Works. Also two maintenance treatments were applied to the City Sewers.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

NEW HOUSES.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

By the Local Authority	...	...	159
By other bodies or persons	...	...	15

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	...	...	...	50
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	225
(2) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and 1932	...	...	...	—
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	50

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	36
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	—
---	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	—
By owners	...	...	—
By Local Authority in default of owners	...		—

Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	11
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—						
By owners	...	...	...	...	...	11

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	1

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	—

In addition to the above :

Number of houses closed on an undertaking of the owner under Section 11	...	...	...	—
Number of houses awaiting demolition under Demolition Orders	...	...	...	28
Number of houses demolished under Clearance Orders	...	...	...	1
Number of houses awaiting demolition under confirmed Clearance Order	...	...	...	68

HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV, OVERCROWDING.

Two hundred and fifty-five families were rehoused by the Housing Manager from overcrowded houses.

CLEARANCE AREAS.

No action has been taken under Section 25, Housing Act, 1936, during the year.

LICENCES FOR RE-OCCUPATION.

Forty-three condemned houses are subject to licences for temporary occupation, eight for storage purposes and thirty-five for habitation. Five condemned houses are occupied by squatters without licences or consent of owners.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING.

As from 1st April, 1948, inspections in connection with Building Licences were passed to the City Surveyor's Department.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Dairy Farms in the City	...	...	12
Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	58
(a) Resident in the City	...	...	33
(b) Non-Resident in the City	...	...	25

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS.

Number of County Producers licensed by County Council purveying Tuberculin Tested Milk in the City	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of City Producers licensed by the County Council but not retailing milk as Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Retailers licensed by the City to bottle Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Producers licensed by County Council to produce Accredited milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Retail Purveyors licensed by the City to sell Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Non-Producers licensed by the City to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

25 samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, with the following results :—

<i>Designation.</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Complied with provisions of the Order.</i>	<i>Failed to comply with provisions of the Order.</i>
Tuberculin Tested	16	8	8
Accredited	5	3	2
Pasteurised	4	4	—
Total	25	15	10

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Twenty samples of milk were submitted to the Clinical Research Association Ltd., for complete bacteriological examination. One sample was reported to contain Tubercle Bacilli which matter was immediately reported to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Investigation showed that the animal had died shortly after the sample had been taken.

ICE CREAM.

HEREFORD CORPORATION ACT, 1936.

Registered Manufacturers and Purveyors.

The following table shows the comparative numbers of manufacturers and purveyors registered with the local authority under the provisions of Sec. 104 of the Hereford Corporation Act, 1936, in 1939 and 1948. The number shown in the last column are those actively engaged in the business.

TABLE A.

	<i>Type of Mix</i>	1939	1948	<i>Effective No. in 1948</i>
Manufacturers ...	Hot Cold	} 20	} 17	7 4
Purveyors ...	Hot Cold	} 66	} 65	31 4

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Analysis of Results for Summer period ending 30th September.

TABLE B.

<i>Type of Mix</i>	<i>Provisional Grade</i>				<i>Total</i>
	1	2	3	4	
Hot ...	24	8	9	8	49
Cold ...	4	2	4	1	11
Total ...	28	10	13	9	60

38

22

PROVISIONAL GRADINGS.

Samples placed in Grades 1 and 2 are deemed satisfactory, and those in Grades 3 and 4 unsatisfactory. In the latter cases a special inspection was made of the methods of manufacture and handling.

From table B it will be seen that 63% of all samples were satisfactory, thus showing that the traders generally are endeavouring to maintain a high standard of hygiene. It is hoped that all manufacturers will be fully equipped to comply with the Regulations by 1st May, 1949.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Number of butcher's shops in the City	...	...	36
Number of Preserved Food preparing premises registered under Private Act	...	...	39
Number of fish-fryer's premises in the City	...	...	10

There are no private slaughterhouses in the City and the Public Abattoir is occupied by the Ministry of Food. The provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, are strictly enforced.

FOOD TRANSPORT.

The transport of food is controlled by the City Bye-law and the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924. Constant supervision of vehicles was maintained.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND PROPORTION CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER CONDITION AT THE CITY ABATTOIR, STONEBOW ROAD.

	<i>Beeves.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Number killed	3,738	1,804	12,094	895
Number inspected	3,783	1,808	12,262	913
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	115	52	209	18
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,090	35	1,492	89
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	58.29%	4.81%	13.87%	11.71%
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	66	6	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	321	3	—	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	10.23%	0.49%	—	4.27%

WEIGHT OF DISEASED AND UNSOUND MEAT CONDEMNED.

		<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Home Killed	...	73	17	3	19 $\frac{3}{4}$
Imported	...	—	19	3	23
Total	...	74	17	3	14 $\frac{3}{4}$

The whole of this meat was put through the Ministry of Food channels for processing and recovery purposes.

IMPORTED MEAT.

During the year the following quantities of imported meat were received at the Public Abattoir by the Midland Wholesale Meat Supply Association Ltd. for distribution to the retail and manufacturing trades.

8,012 Quarters of Beef	4,879 Sheep
239 Pork Sides	29,960 Lambs

Approximately 3,500 Packages of Meat for manufacturing purposes.

In addition to the City the following County districts are supplied with meat from the Abattoir—Hereford, Bromyard, Dore and Bredwardine, Ledbury, Ross-on-Wye. The whole population served is approximately 93,000.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938.

14 animals were examined under this Order during the year. In 9 cases the lesions were generalised and condemnation of the carcasses and all organs occurred.

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES SCHEME.

5 cases of Generalised Tuberculosis in calves were reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In 3 cases the infection proved to be congenital, the dams of the calves were found on post-mortem inspection to be affected with Tuberculosis and the carcasses condemned.

EMERGENCY SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

Included in the numbers of animals killed and inspected at the Abattoir are those of animals sent in for emergency slaughter :

<i>Beeves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
622	976	231	182	2011

These figures show the importance of the Abattoir as a reception centre for 'casualties' from the neighbouring agricultural area. They point also to the necessity for a modern Abattoir in the City complete with all equipment and facilities for dealing with all classes of food animals and bye-products.

OTHER FOODS INSPECTED AND SURRENDERED.

		<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat Products ...	...		1	2	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Various Canned Foods ...	...	1	9	1	23 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wet Fish ...	...	1	5	3	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cured Fish ...	...		14	3	15
Jam and Syrup ...	...		1	3	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Butter and Margarine ...	...		10	1	12 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cheese ...	...			2	11
Bacon ...	...		3	3	3
Fruit Juice... ..	...		17	0	17 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dried Fruit ...	...		11	0	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Vegetables ...	...	3	2	0	0
Flour Confectionery ...	...		5	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sugar ...	...			1	21 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sugar Confectionery ...	...			1	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cereals ...	...		2	0	18
Pickles ...	...			1	26 $\frac{1}{4}$
Miscellaneous Foods ...	...				20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total ...	...	9	7	3	24 $\frac{3}{4}$

Where possible all condemned foods are salvaged for re-processing or use as animal feeding stuffs.

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

Meat Inspections at Abattoir	...	...	...	595
Inspections of other Food	...	...	...	273
Inspections of Food Preparation Premises, etc., including Bakehouses	...	...	...	795
Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	136

PROVISION OF CONSTANT HOT WATER SUPPLY IN FOOD PREMISES 1948.

Constant hot water supply to comply with provisions of Sec. 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, provided in food premises.

By installation of electric or gas instantaneous heaters	...	...	...	38
By installation of central supply	...	...	...	1
By provision of electric boilers	...	...	...	1

LECTURES TO FOOD HANDLERS.

Although a fairly high hygienic standard has always been maintained by persons engaged in the food trades in the City, it was though advisable to arrange lectures to such people by a bacteriologist on the sources of food poisoning.

Two meetings were arranged and held at the Town Hall. The first on 29th June, 1948, when approximately 250 food handlers attended. At this meeting the Chairman was Mrs. Janet Ainslie, Chairman of the Public Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health opened the discussion.

The second meeting was held on 1st July, 1948, when approximately 150 persons attended. The Chairman was Councillor E. O. S. D'Lonra, member of the Public Health Committee, and the discussion was opened by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

At both meetings, the lecturer was Dr. R. Ewart Jones, M.R.C.S., B.Sc., D.P.H., Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Hereford. Generally the project was successful, the attendance very good and the lectures were given in simple but informative phraseology. Co-operation between the food trades and the Health Department was much improved as a result.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

SAMPLING OFFICER'S REPORT.

The following table shows the number and nature of the articles submitted to the Public Analyst during the year and the results of the analyses :—

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Submitted</i>		<i>No. Genuine</i>		<i>No. Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Inf.</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Inf.</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Inf.</i>
Milk	44	—	42	—	2	—
Channel Island Milk	2	—	1	—	1	—
Soft Drinks	4	—	4	—	—	—
Malt Vinegar	—	2	—	2	—	—
Sulphur Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—
Coffee and Chicory	—	2	—	2	—	—
Herbal Mixtures	—	5	—	5	—	—
Meat Pies	5	—	5	—	—	—
Toffee Apples	2	—	2	—	—	—
Butter	5	—	5	—	—	—
Cod Liver Oil						
Capsules	—	2	—	2	—	—
Halibut Oil Capsules	—	2	—	2	—	—
Arrowroot	—	2	—	2	—	—
Mustard	—	2	—	2	—	—
Cream of Tartar	—	2	—	2	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	2	—	2	—	—
Headache Powders	—	2	—	2	—	—
Soyaggetti	1	—	1	—	—	—
Soyalina	2	—	—	—	2	—
Cocoa	—	2	—	2	—	—
	65	27	60	27	5	—
	92		87		5	

OBSERVATIONS.

SAMPLE No. 43. Milk deficient of 6% fat. Subsequent sample Genuine.

SAMPLE No. 68. Milk deficient of 10% fat. "Appeal to Cow"

Sample No. 71 deficient of 4.3% fat. Suggestions and

advice to producer acted upon and Sample No. 75 reported genuine.

SAMPLE No. 89. Channel Island Milk deficient of 10% fat. In accordance with Circular M.F. 8/48 particulars were sent to the Ministry of Food Milk Division.

SAMPLES Nos. 93 and 94. Soyalina both contained an excessive number of live mites and remaining stocks seized and destroyed. A written warning was sent to the wholesaler.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the period 1st January, 1948 to 4th July, 1948, a weekly diphtheria immunisation clinic was held at which 205 children received a full course of injections and 15 children received re-inforcement injections.

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Nose and throat swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli (K.L.B.)	—	109	109
Nose and throat swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	66	109	175
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	26	167	193
Swabs for Vincent's Organism	3	103	106
Faeces (B. Typhosus)	4	—	4
Special Examinations for Smallpox	—	1	1

DISINFECTION.

The following are particulars of disinfection of rooms and bedding after infectious or other diseases :—

	<i>Room.</i>	<i>Bedding.</i>
Scarlet Fever	51	51
Diphtheria	2	2
Tuberculosis	9	9
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	3	3
	—	—
	65	65
	—	—

Library books have been disinfected and returned for circulation.

Several lots of bedding have been destroyed on requests from the owners. When necessary, disinfectant was supplied.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease in the six wards of the City.

		<i>Bartonsham.</i>	<i>Central.</i>	<i>Holmer.</i>	<i>St. Martins.</i>	<i>St. Nicholas.</i>	<i>Tupsley</i>
Scarlet Fever	...	4	9	14	12	7	6
Diphtheria		—	—	1	1	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever		—	1	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia		1	1	1	—	2	2
Erysipelas		1	2	—	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—	—	—	6
Measles		19	22	16	26	12	20
Whooping Cough	...	31	8	27	14	9	14
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		1	1	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

<i>Age Period</i>	<i>New</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	6	11	1	1	—	1	—	1
25—35 years	4	3	1	1	2	1	—	—
35—45 years	5	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	4	5	1	1	3	1	—	1
55—65 years	3	1	—	1	3	1	—	1
65 and upwards...	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Age unknown	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	28	24	3	6	9	5	—	3

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

<i>Cases</i>			<i>Vision Unimpaired</i>	<i>Vision Impaired</i>	<i>Total Blindness</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
<i>Notified</i>	<i>Treated</i>					
	<i>At Home</i>	<i>In Hospital</i>				
2	1	1	2	—	—	—

The case not admitted to Hospital attended at the Victoria Eye Hospital daily for treatment.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1948.

Age	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Typhoid Fever		Measles		Whooping Cough		Ophthalmia Neonatorum		Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Cerebro Spinal Fever		Puerperal Pyrexial
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0-	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	7	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
1-	2	3	...	...	...	...	5	12	14	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3-	1	7	...	...	...	...	14	19	7	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-	20	9	...	...	...	...	21	34	26	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
10-	3	5	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	4
25 & over	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	3	...	...	...	1
Age unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Total	26	26	...	3	...	1	46	69	54	49	...	2	6	1	3	2	1	1	6
Hospital Cases	24	19	...	3	...	2	2	1	8	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	1	1	6
No. of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...

CITY OF HEREFORD.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1948.

AGES IN YEARS

	un- der 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	M.	F.	T'tl
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	3	2	—	5	6	11
8. Other Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2
9. Purulent Infection and Septicaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	3
10. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3	—	3
11. Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Acute Poliomyelitis, polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Acute Infectious encephalitis (lethargic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Hodgkin's Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Other Infective Disease	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
17. Cancer, Bucal Cavity and Oesophagus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	3
18. Cancer, Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	1	4	4	8
19. Cancer, Respiratory System	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	3	1	8	1	9
20. Cancer, Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	4	4
21. Cancer, Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	—	6	6
22. Cancer, Other Sites	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	8	9	8	15	16	31
23. Rheumatic Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	2	3	5
25. Exophthalmic Goitre	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Diseases of the Blood	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	3
27. Cerebral Vascular Lesions	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	5	12	22	18	26	44
28. Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Antrum	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
29. Chronic Endocarditis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Myocardial Degeneration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	19	15	18	33
31. Coronary Disease, Angina Pectoris	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5	7	3	12	8	20
32. Other Diseases of Heart	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	10	13	8	21	29
33. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	4	7	8	6	14
34. Bronchitis	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	9	9	7	16
35. Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	10	3	13
36. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
37. Diseases of Pharynx and Tonsils	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
38. Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	5	—	5
39. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
40. Appendicitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	3
41. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
42. Other Diseases of the Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
43. Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	3
44. Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	3	8	2	10
45. Pyelitis and Diseases of the Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46. Diseases of the Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	—	4
47. Septic Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
48. Other Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
49. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
50. Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
51. Premature Birth	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	6
52. Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
53. Congenital Malformation and Infantile Disease	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	9
54. Old Age	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	10	4	8	12
55. Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	2	4	2	6
56. Road Traffic Accidents	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
57. Other Violent Causes	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	4	6	5	11
58. Other Defined Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	3	4
59. Ill-defined Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	24	4	1	2	2	13	11	27	55	80	120	166	173	339

